

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**Claims pending**

- At time of the Action: Claims 1-5, 7-10, 13-17, and 21-23.
- After this Response: Claims 1-5, 7-10, 13-17, and 21-23.

Canceled or Withdrawn claims: 6, 11-12, and 18-20.**Amended claims:** None.**New claims:** None.**Please amend the claims as indicated below:**

1. **(Previously Presented)** In a telecommunication system configured to provide a connection between a caller and a callee via an advanced intelligent network (AIN), wherein the AIN is configured to connect the caller and the callee, a method for blocking future calls from the caller to the callee, the method comprising:

connecting a call from the caller to the callee;

receiving a first instruction from the callee to access a service to block future calls from the caller to the callee;

providing at least one callee selection via a voice prompt responsive to the first instruction;

receiving a second instruction from the callee;

identifying a first telephone number associated with the caller;

storing the first telephone number associated with the caller in a caller block table in a service data point (SDP); and

preventing, via a service switching point (SSP), one or more phone calls from the first telephone number from being forwarded to a second telephone number associated with the callee.

2. **(Previously Presented)** The method as in claim 1, wherein receiving the first instruction from the callee includes:

detecting an off-hook signal from the callee; and
receiving a predetermined code from the callee.

3. **(Original)** The method as in claim 2, wherein the predetermined code includes at least one of the following:

one or more digits; and
one or more non-numeric symbols.

4. **(Previously Presented)** The method as in claim 1, wherein identifying the first telephone number includes:

maintaining a record of the most recent telephone number that was a source of a call placed to the second telephone number immediately prior to receiving the callee's instruction to block future calls from the caller to the callee; and
consulting the record to identify the most recent telephone number as the first telephone number.

5. **(Original)** The method as in claim 2, wherein receiving the predetermined code includes:

receiving a first portion of the predetermined code;
prompting the callee to send a second portion of the predetermined code; and
receiving the second portion of the predetermined code.

6. **(Canceled).**

7. **(Original)** The method as in claim 5, further comprising prompting the callee to perform administration tasks.

8. **(Original)** The method as in claim 7, wherein prompting the callee includes prompting the callee to record a message to be played to the caller.

9. **(Original)** The method as in claim 7, wherein prompting the callee includes prompting the callee to select a pre-recorded message to be played to the caller.

10. **(Original)** The method as in claim 1, further comprising one of charging a subscription fee to the callee and charging a pre-usage fee to the callee.

11. **(Canceled).**

12. **(Canceled).**

13. **(Previously Presented)** A telecommunications system, comprising:

a service switching point (SSP) in communication with a first telecommunications device associated with a callee and a second communications device associated with a caller wherein the SSP connects a call from the caller to the callee; and

a service control point (SCP) in communication with the SSP, the SCP having stored thereon instructions and data which, when executed, cause the telecommunications system to:

recognize a first instruction from the callee to access a service to block future calls from the caller to the callee;

provide at least one callee selection via a voice prompt responsive to the first instruction;

receive a second instruction from the callee;

identify a first telephone number associated with the caller; and

prevent one or more phone call from the first telephone number from being forwarded to a second telephone number associated with the callee.

14. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 13, wherein recognizing the first instruction from the callee includes:

detecting an off-hook signal from callee; and

receiving a predetermined code from the callee.

15. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 13, further comprising a database in communication with the SCP.

16. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 13, further comprising an interactive voice response system in communication with the SCP and the SSP.

17. **(Previously Presented)** The system of claim 13, further comprising a service creation computer in communication with the SCP.

18. **(Canceled).**

19. **(Canceled).**

20. **(Canceled).**

21. **(Previously Presented)** In a telecommunication system configured to provide a connection between a caller and a callee via a telephone network, wherein the telephone network is configured to connect the caller and the callee, a method for blocking future calls from the caller to the callee, the method comprising:

connecting a call from the caller to the callee;

receiving a first instruction from the callee to access a service to block future calls from the caller to the callee;

providing at least one callee selection via a voice prompt responsive to the first instruction;

receiving a second instruction from the callee;

identifying a first telephone number associated with the caller; and

preventing one or more phone calls from the first telephone number from being forwarded to a second telephone number associated with the callee.

22. **(Previously Presented)** The method as in claim 21, wherein receiving the first instruction from the callee includes:

detecting an off-hook signal from the callee; and
receiving a predetermined code from the callee.

23. **(Previously Presented)** The method as in claim 21, wherein identifying the first telephone number includes:

maintaining a record of the most recent telephone number that was a source of a call placed to the second telephone number immediately prior to receiving the callee's instruction to block future calls from the caller to the callee; and
consulting the record to identify the most recent telephone number as the first telephone number.